

political stability and economic progress in Europe.

The proposed sale will improve Ukraine's capability to meet current and future threats by providing a modern, fast, short-range vessel. Ukraine will utilize the vessels to better defend its territorial waters and protect other maritime interests. Ukraine will have no difficulty absorbing this equipment into its armed forces.

The proposed sale of this equipment and support will not alter the basic military balance in the region.

The prime contractor will be SAFE Boats International, Bremerton, WA. There are no known offset agreements proposed in conjunction with this potential sale.

Implementation of this proposed sale will not require the assignment of any additional U.S. Government or contractor representatives to Ukraine.

There will be no adverse impact on U.S. defense readiness as a result of this proposed sale.

PRIVILEGED NOMINATION REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON THURSDAY, AUGUST 6, 2020

On request by Senator BRIAN SCHATZ, under the authority of S. Res. 116, 112th Congress, the following nomination was referred to the Committee on Commerce: Daniel Huff, of Massachusetts, to be an Assistant Secretary of Commerce.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. JOHNSON, from the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, with amendments:

S. 3418. A bill to amend the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act to allow the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency to provide capitalization grants to States to establish revolving funds to provide hazard mitigation assistance to reduce risks from disasters and natural hazards, and other related environmental harm (Rept. No. 116-249).

By Mr. JOHNSON, from the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs:

Report to accompany S. 3455, a bill to prohibit certain individuals from downloading or using TikTok on any device issued by the United States or a government corporation (Rept. No. 116-250).

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. VAN HOLLEN (for himself, Mr. LANKFORD, and Ms. SINEMA):

S. 4518. A bill to require Federal agencies to permit employees to telework full-time during the public health emergency relating to COVID-19, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Ms. HARRIS:

S. 4519. A bill to provide mortgage relief and to provide eviction relief for renters related to the COVID-19 pandemic, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mrs. LOEFFLER:

S. 4520. A bill to transfer the responsibility of verifying small business concerns owned

and controlled by veterans or service-disabled veterans to the Small Business Administration, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

The following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were read, and referred (or acted upon), as indicated:

By Mr. BRAUN (for himself, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. PERDUE, and Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina):

S. Res. 679. A resolution expressing appreciation and support for essential employees with disabilities or who are blind during the COVID-19 pandemic and beyond; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 665

At the request of Mrs. GILLIBRAND, the name of the Senator from New York (Mr. SCHUMER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 665, a bill to reduce the number of preventable deaths and injuries caused by underwrite crashes, to improve motor carrier and passenger motor vehicle safety, and for other purposes.

S. 2165

At the request of Mr. HEINRICH, the names of the Senator from Idaho (Mr. CRAPO) and the Senator from Nevada (Ms. ROSEN) were added as cosponsors of S. 2165, a bill to enhance protections of Native American tangible cultural heritage, and for other purposes.

S. 3718

At the request of Ms. CANTWELL, the names of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. LEAHY) and the Senator from Alaska (Ms. MURKOWSKI) were added as cosponsors of S. 3718, a bill to expand the waiver of affiliation rules for certain business concerns with more than 1 physical location, and for other purposes.

S. 4098

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the name of the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4098, a bill to provide funding for the Neighborhood Reinvestment Corporation Act, and for other purposes.

S. 4258

At the request of Mr. CORNYN, the names of the Senator from California (Ms. HARRIS), the Senator from Illinois (Ms. DUCKWORTH), the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS), the Senator from Oregon (Mr. MERKLEY), the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MORAN) and the Senator from New York (Mr. SCHUMER) were added as cosponsors of S. 4258, a bill to establish a grant program for small live venue operators and talent representatives.

S. 4350

At the request of Mr. VAN HOLLEN, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4350, a bill to provide immediate relief for patients from

certain medical debt collection efforts during and immediately after the COVID-19 public health emergency.

S. 4381

At the request of Mr. CASSIDY, the name of the Senator from Arizona (Ms. MCSALLY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4381, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide supplementary 2020 recovery rebates to eligible individuals.

S. 4476

At the request of Mrs. FEINSTEIN, the name of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. HEINRICH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4476, a bill to provide protections for employees of, former employees of, and applicants for employment with Federal agencies, contractors, and grantees whose right to petition or furnish information to Congress is interfered with or denied.

S. RES. 677

At the request of Ms. MURKOWSKI, the name of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. REED) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 677, a resolution designating August 16, 2020, as "National Airborne Day".

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 679—EXPRESSING APPRECIATION AND SUPPORT FOR ESSENTIAL EMPLOYEES WITH DISABILITIES OR WHO ARE BLIND DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC AND BEYOND

Mr. BRAUN (for himself, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. PERDUE, and Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions:

S. RES. 679

Whereas, during the COVID-19 pandemic, it has been necessary for essential services to continue in areas where most businesses and government buildings are closed;

Whereas the contracts for essential services arise under Federal, State, and local government programs that are intended, in part, to provide employment opportunities for individuals with disabilities or who are blind;

Whereas many essential employees with disabilities or who are blind work through disability service providers that provide training, job coaches, transportation, and any other needed support to help those employees perform essential work;

Whereas the essential work performed during the COVID-19 pandemic includes—

(1) provisioning the United States Navy hospital ships, Comfort and Mercy;

(2) manufacturing and delivering thousands of critical products that strengthen the COVID-19 response of the United States and support hospitals, health care professionals, first responders, the United States military, and governments at all levels, including personal protective equipment, hand sanitizer, cleaning products and disinfectants, first aid kits, exam gloves, and toilet paper;

(3) supporting Federal and State efforts to establish pop-up hospitals;

(4) assembling kits for the Army that are used to build COVID-19 treatment centers across the United States;

(5) providing the United States military with critical products, including the helmets and uniforms soldiers wear every day as National Guard units are deployed around the United States;

(6) performing custodial and commissary work, food services, and total facility management services on military bases across the United States and the territories of the United States;

(7) maintaining offices and providing other services in Federal, State, and local government buildings where vital work is being performed, including—

(A) Federal buildings in and around the District of Columbia, such as the Library of Congress, the congressional office buildings, the Mark Center, and the buildings that house the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Department of Justice, the Internal Revenue Service, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services of the Department of Health and Human Services, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and the Department of State;

(B) State buildings, such as State police barracks, State department of transportation operation centers, and State courthouses; and

(C) numerous other locations across the United States and the territories of the United States;

(8) with respect to services performed for the medical centers in the Department of Veterans Affairs—

(A) providing deep-cleaning and sanitizing services;

(B) operating switchboards; and

(C) manufacturing prescription bottles, exam gloves, and other products;

(9) providing call center and technical support to State and Federal entities;

(10) operating crisis hotlines and call centers to process the surge in State unemployment claims;

(11) sourcing and providing urgently needed personal protective equipment;

(12) providing personal protective equipment for employees of the Bureau of the Census;

(13) delivering 250 Federal medical stations under contract with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention;

(14) leveraging sewing expertise to produce hundreds of thousands of cloth face masks for Federal customers, including the military and medical centers in the Department of Veterans Affairs, medical clinics, local businesses, and the general public;

(15) increasing the availability of supplies and adapting Base Supply Centers to sell personal protective equipment and cleaning products to customers on military bases;

(16) stepping up custodial efforts to—

(A) address known COVID-19 incident locations; and

(B) establish preventative measures to enable other essential employees, such as medical professionals and military personnel, to continue their service throughout the COVID-19 pandemic;

(17) responding to dynamic changes in acquisition methods to meet the needs of Federal, State, and local government customers;

(18) packaging food items and necessary supplies for ongoing work performed by Federal, State, and local government employees; and

(19) hosting virtual support groups, donating items, and providing essential services in communities across the United States;

Whereas the essential employees who perform these jobs, many of whom have disabilities or are blind, play a central and invaluable role in protecting the United States and

the territories of the United States and fighting the COVID-19 pandemic;

Whereas Congress and the Federal Government have recognized the importance of these jobs by passing laws that support hiring individuals with disabilities or who are blind;

Whereas essential employees with disabilities or who are blind—

(1) have continued to perform their regular duties and more throughout the COVID-19 pandemic;

(2) are vital to the economy of the United States and the territories of the United States;

(3) were essential before the COVID-19 pandemic and will continue to be essential after the COVID-pandemic has passed into history;

Whereas these jobs are vital to the personal finances and well-being of the individuals who perform them; and

Whereas work opportunities to perform essential jobs during the COVID-19 pandemic arise under programs authorized by Congress or State and local legislatures: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes the essential work performed by individuals with disabilities or who are blind during the COVID-19 pandemic; and

(2) recognizes and thanks essential employees with disabilities or who are blind for—

(A) their efforts throughout the COVID-19 pandemic; and

(B) the vital contributions to the United States they have made in the past and will make in the future.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 2643. Mrs. BLACKBURN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2499 proposed by Mr. McCONNELL to the bill S. 178, to condemn gross human rights violations of ethnic Turkic Muslims in Xinjiang, and calling for an end to arbitrary detention, torture, and harassment of these communities inside and outside China; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2644. Mrs. BLACKBURN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2499 proposed by Mr. McCONNELL to the bill S. 178, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2645. Mrs. BLACKBURN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2499 proposed by Mr. McCONNELL to the bill S. 178, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2646. Mr. CORNYN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2499 proposed by Mr. McCONNELL to the bill S. 178, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2647. Mr. McCONNELL (for Ms. DUCKWORTH) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 1014, to establish the Route 66 Centennial Commission, and for other purposes.

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 2643. Mrs. BLACKBURN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2499 proposed by Mr. McCONNELL to the bill S. 178, to condemn gross human rights violations of ethnic Turkic Muslims in Xinjiang, and calling for an end to arbitrary detention, torture, and harassment of these communities inside and outside China; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. ____ SENSE OF THE SENATE.

It is the sense of the Senate that it is the duty of the Federal Government to protect and promote individual choice in health insurance for the American people and prevent any “Medicare for All” proposal that would outlaw private health plans, such as job-based coverage and Medicare Advantage plans.

SA 2644. Mrs. BLACKBURN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2499 proposed by Mr. McCONNELL to the bill S. 178, to condemn gross human rights violations of ethnic Turkic Muslims in Xinjiang, and calling for an end to arbitrary detention, torture, and harassment of these communities inside and outside China; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. ____ FREEZE IN MEDICARE REIMBURSEMENT FOR HOME PT/INR MONITORING SERVICES FURNISHED TO INDIVIDUALS ON WARFARIN THERAPY DURING THE COVID-19 PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 1848(b) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395w-4(b)) is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“(12) TREATMENT OF HOME PT/INR MONITORING SERVICES FURNISHED TO INDIVIDUALS ON WARFARIN THERAPY.—In the case of home prothrombin time/international normalized ratio (PT/INR) monitoring services furnished to an individual on warfarin therapy (identified as of January 1, 2020, by HCPCS G-codes G0248 and G0249) during any portion of the emergency period described in section 1135(g)(1)(B) beginning on or after the date of the enactment of this paragraph, the payment amount for such services under the fee schedule established under this subsection shall be equal to the payment amount for such services under the fee schedule established for services furnished during 2019.”.

(b) EXEMPTION FROM BUDGET NEUTRALITY.—Section 1848(c)(2)(B)(iv) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395w-4(c)(2)(B)(iv)) is amended—

(1) in subclause (III), by striking “and” at the end;

(2) in subclause (IV), by striking the period at the end and inserting “; and”; and

(3) by adding at the end the following new subclause:

“(V) subsection (b)(12) shall not be taken into account in applying clause (ii)(II) during any portion of the emergency period described in section 1135(g)(1)(B) beginning on or after the date of the enactment of such subsection.”.

SA 2645. Mrs. BLACKBURN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2499 proposed by Mr. McCONNELL to the bill S. 178, to condemn gross human rights violations of ethnic Turkic Muslims in Xinjiang, and calling for an end to arbitrary detention, torture, and harassment of these communities inside and outside China; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following: